

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-12 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05

H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15

NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 TRSE-00 /075 W

-----025388 051200Z /64

O P 051122Z MAY 78

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8269

INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY PARIS PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

USMISSION USNATO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PEPR, UR, GW

SUBJECT: BREZHNEV VISIT TO FRG - MAY 4 DINNER TOAST

1. IN A TOAST GIVEN AT PRESIDENT SCHEEL'S DINNER IN HIS HONOR ON MAY 4, BREZHNEV: TERMED DISARMAMENT THE MOST IMPORTANT TASK AT HAND AND CALLED FOR CONCRETE STEPS TO REDUCE FORCES AND ARMS IN CENTRAL EUROPE; CALLED FOR BINDING MUTUAL AGREEMENTS TO PREVENT THE PRODUCTION OF THE NEUTRON BOMB; AND TERMED DETENTE IRREVERSIBLE. THERE FOLLOWS AN INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF KEY PORTIONS OF BREZHNEV'S REMARKS:

2. DISARMAMENT: "LET US SEE TO IT THAT THERE IS A HALT TO THE INCREASE IN ARMAMENTS. LET US INTRODUCE CONCRETE STEPS TO REDUCE FORCES AND ARMAMENTS BOTH GLOBALLY AND IN EUROPE, PARTICULARLY IN CENTRAL EUROPE. LET US AGREE TO A RENUNCIATION OF THE PRODUCTION AND STATIONING OF NEW WEAPONS OF MASS DESTRUCTION. THROUGH BINDING MUTUAL AGREEMENTS LET US PREVENT THE NEUTRON

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BOMB, THIS SINISTER GIFT THAT SOME WANT TO BRING TO THE PEOPLE OF OUR CONTINENT, FROM SEEING THE LIGHT OF DAY. THE SOVIET UNION HAS JUST SUBMITTED A SET OF PROPOSALS ON COMPLETELY STOPPING THE FURTHER QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE GROWTH OF ARMS AND FORCES OF THOSE STATES WHICH POSSESS CONSIDERABLE MILITARY POTENTIAL. WE ARE CONVINCED THAT TODAY THERE IS NO MORE IMPORTANT TASK

THAN TO CLOSE OFF ALL CHANNELS OF THE ARMS RACE,
WHETHER NUCLEAR OR CONVENTIONAL. WE ASK ALL STATES TO
JOIN IN THIS EFFORT...INCLUDING OUR PARTNERS AND FRIENDS
IN THE FRG."

3. BILATERAL RELATIONS: BREZHNEV SAID THE "RESULT OF BILATERAL COOPERATION WAS IMPORTANT AND TANGIBLE. IT IS MANIFESTED IN DEVELOPING POLITICAL CONTACTS, IN THE EXTENSIVE ECONOMIC TIES, WHICH CONTINUE TO GROW, AND IN THE INCREASING TRAFFIC OF VISITORS. BUT I DO NOT WISH TO IMPLY THAT THE TIME HAS COME TO FOLD OUR HANDS AND BE COMPLACENT AT WHAT WE HAVE ACHIEVED... THERE ARE STILL PLENTY OF PROBLEMS."

4. INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS: BREZHNEV SAID, "AS I HAVE OFTEN SAID BEFORE, ONE MUST FIGHT FOR PEACE. DETENTE MUST BE INTENSIFIED AND MADE IRREVERSIBLE...IT IS WELL KNOWN THAT IN THE FRG AND IN OTHER WESTERN COUNTRIES THERE ARE MILLIONS OF PEOPLE AND MANY IMPORTANT STATESMEN WHO DESIRE PEACE AND CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE SOVIET UNION AND OTHER STATES OF THE SOCIALIST COMMUNITY. BUT WE ALSO KNOW THAT IN THE WEST IN GENERAL AND ALSO IN YOUR COUNTRY THERE ARE OPPONENTS OF DETENTE."

5. COMMENT: AN AMERICAN JOURNALIST ADVISES THAT A
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RUSSIAN-SPEAKING COLLEAGUE FROM REUTERS TOLD HIM THAT

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AN ERROR EXISTS IN THE GERMAN LANGUAGE TEXT OF BREZHNEV'S SPEECH, AS ISSUED BY THE SOVIET EMBASSY HERE. ACCORDING TO THIS JOURNALIST, THE RUSSIAN VERSION DELIVERED BY BREZHNEV REFERRED TO BINDING AGREEMENTS (PARA 2, SENTENCE 4 ABOVE) ON THE NEUTRON BOMB IN THE SINGULAR RATHER THAN THE PLURAL AS STATED IN THE EMBASSY TEXT, ON WHICH THIS TRANSLATION IS BASED.

FRG DISARMAMENT COMMISSIONER RUTH TOLD US THAT HE SAW NOTHING NEW IN THE FORMULATIONS REGARDING DISARMAMENT IN CENTRAL EUROPE AND THE NEUTRON BOMB.

STOESSEL

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